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COMICS

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AUTHORITY

GARGOYLES

**BULLET
PROOF**

CONNER
+ PALMIOTTI
78

FROM THE EXPLOSIVE NEW ANIMATED TV SERIES!

GARGOYLES

FROM THE PERSONAL DIARY
OF ELISA MAZA, N.Y.P.D.

I wonder where we'd be now
if the last rays of SUNLIGHT
had faded any LATER.

HUHH?! IT...
IT'S BREAKIN'
APART...PI

UH-OH.

One more SECOND and LEX might
NOT have SURVIVED to tell me what
happened AFTER he RESUMED his
FLESH-AND-BLOOD form!

SCRIPT: MARTIN PASKO / BREAKDOWNS: AMANDA CONNER / FINISHES: ALBERTO SAICHANN /
COLORS: GREG WRIGHT / LETTERS: JOHN COSTANZA / EDITOR: HILDT MESNIK

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SO THAT'S
WHY YA DIDN'T MOVE
TILL I WAS PRACTICALLY
ON TOP OF YA...!

YA WEREN'T
JUST CAMOUFLAGED LIKE
ONE OF THEM JUNGLE
LIZARDS--

-- BUT
YA REALLY WERE
A HUNK O'
-- HUH?!

WHAM

MISTA
DRAGON...!

BRACKSSH

And while all THAT
was going on...



... I was just
waking up.

ELISA... ? GOOD
EVENING.

HUHP
OH... UH...
YAWN: HI,
GOLIATH.

LISTEN,
I'VE GOT TO
FIND "THE GLI'S."
IT'S ABOUT THE
SHOOTING--



YOU'RE EXHAUSTED. YOU LOOK LIKE YOU
FELL ASLEEP WAITING FOR US TO--

NEVER
MIND THAT
NOW. I'VE GOT
A KILLER TO
NAIL...

WHAT
KILLER?
START AT THE
BEGINNING,
PLEASE.

AND
COME DOWN
FROM THERE
BEFORE YOU
FALL.

That's when I told
Goliath about how
that KID, Price, got
SHOT... *

* ISSUE #2.
-- HILDY

... and
how an
ONLOOKER
had reported
seeing
"WINGED
MONSTERS."

... WHICH
IS WHY I THINK
THOSE THREE WERE
OVERHEAD.



THEY
MAY HAVE
WITNESSED THE
SHOOTING.

OUTSIDE
A "CLUB." YE
SAY, LASS?

WELL, THAT IS
CONSISTENT WITH WHAT
THEY SAID THEY'D BE DOING.

But WHERE were they?

To this moment, I STILL don't know where BROOKLYN ended up.

WHOA...!

PSST---
BROADWAY?

BROADWAY, ARE
YOU AROUND...?

WHAT IS THIS
PLACE--- SOME KINDA
WAREHOUSE...?

BASSH

MANNY?---

--- IZZAT YOU? YOU
TAKIN' A BREAK IN HERE
OR SLUMPIN'...?

OMIGOD.

BLAMM
BLAMM

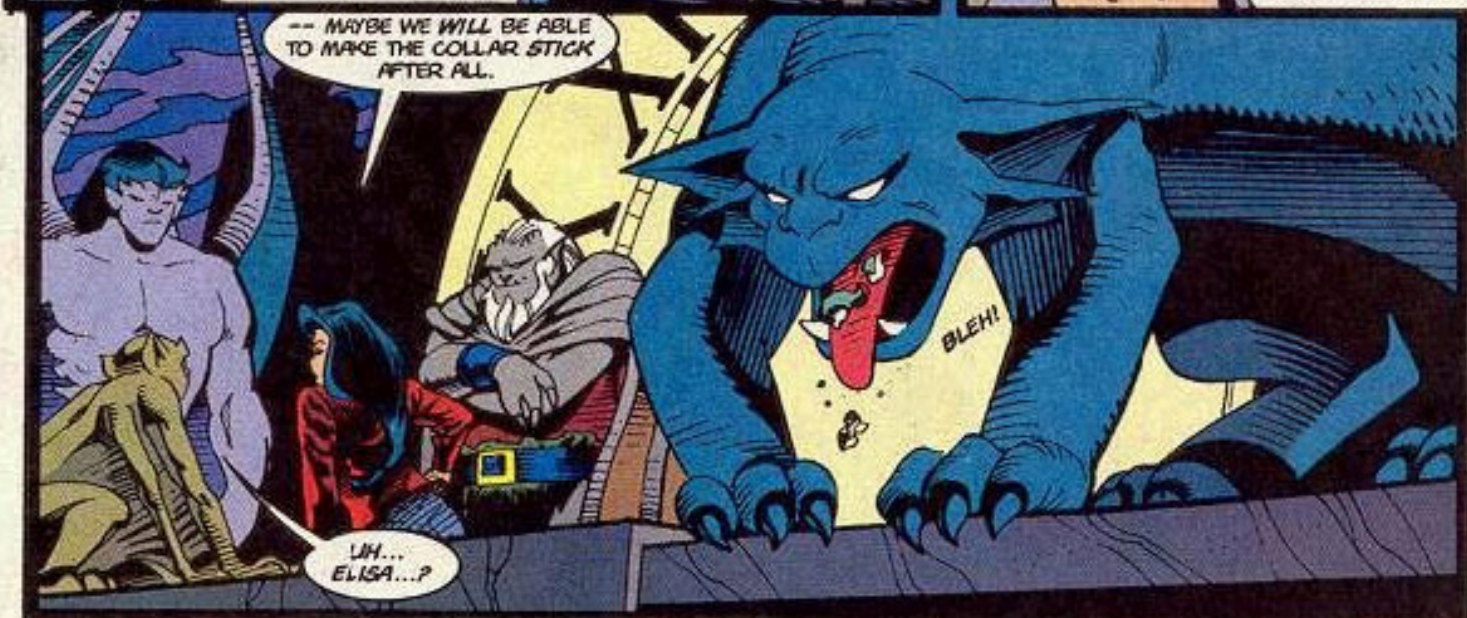
MEANWHILE...

OKAY,
THAT'S IT!
NO MORE
FOOLIN' AROUND!



And as soon as the coast was CLEAR, Lex started back to the CLOCK TOWER...

... ASSUMING that his "rookery brothers" had ALREADY done the SAME.



I thought I'd FINALLY caught a BREAK. Lex was trying to TELL me that it wouldn't be so EASY.

But all I wanted to HEAR about was BROADWAY'S WHEREABOUTS...

SOL? YOU GONNA UNLOAD THE TRUCK TONIGHT OR NOT?

WHAT, I SHOULD STRAIN MYSELF?

WAIT FOR BARRY IN THE MORNING. FOR LIFTING, THAT'S WHAT WE PAY HIM FOR.

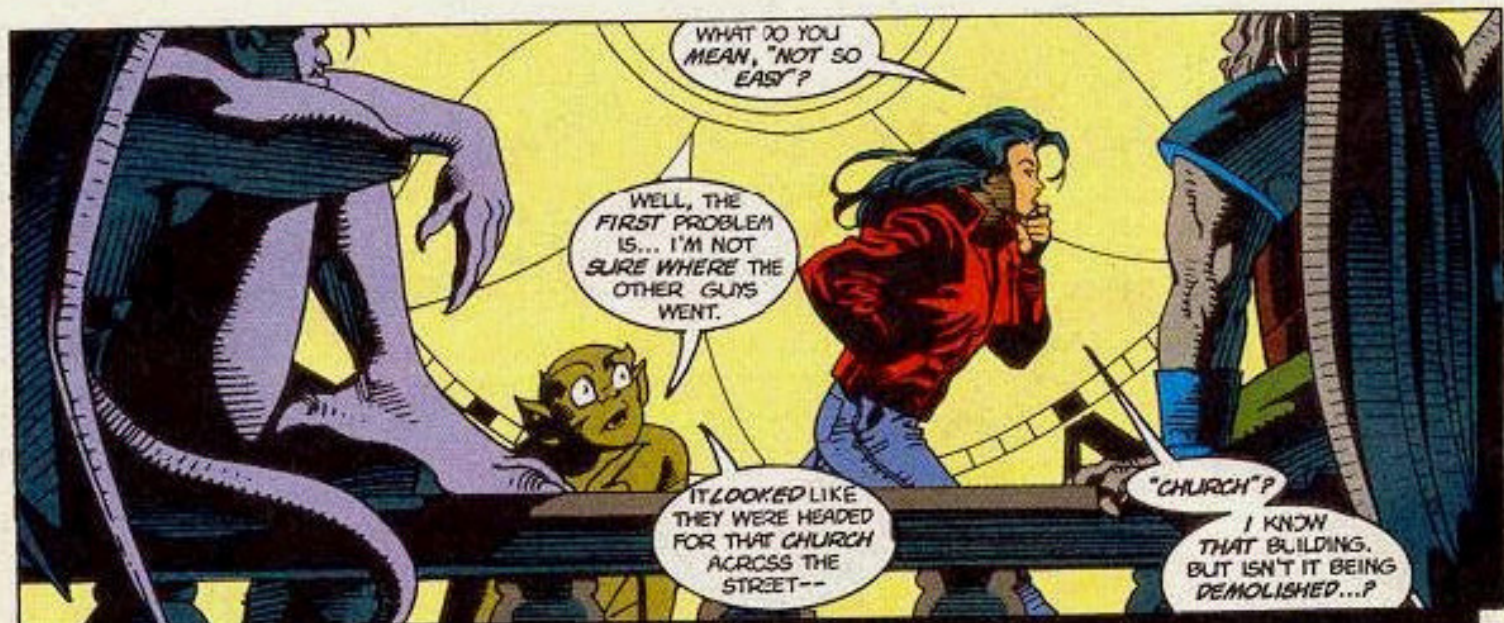


SO, IT'S ONE OF THEM... I HEARD ABOUT THEIR KIND-- GARGOYLES, THEY CALL 'EM.

SEE, SOL? I TOLDJA THEY WERE REAL, BUT DID YOU LISTEN?

SOPHIE, YOU LISETA TALK ABOUT UFO'S IN UTAH, AND I DIDN'T LISTEN THEN, EITHER.





WHAT DO YOU MEAN, "NOT SO EASY"?

WELL, THE FIRST PROBLEM IS... I'M NOT SURE WHERE THE OTHER GUYS WENT.

IT LOOKED LIKE THEY WERE HEADED FOR THAT CHURCH ACROSS THE STREET--

"CHURCH"?

I KNOW THAT BUILDING. BUT ISN'T IT BEING DEMOLISHED...?



IF THEY WERE ON IT WHEN THE WRECKERS CAME--

CHURCHES ARE ON CONSECRATED GROUND-- THEY TEND NOT TO BE DISMANTLED.

THAT ISN'T A CHURCH, GOLIATH. NOT ANYMORE.

IT'S A MUSEUM. WHEN THE DIOCESE COULDN'T AFFORD TO KEEP IT UP AND RUNNING, THEY DONATED IT TO THE CITY.

I'LL JUST--?! UH - OH.

THAT'S ONE REASON WE FIND THEM SUCH A RELIABLE ROOST.

NOW THE CITY'S SOLD IT TO A DEVELOPER.

NEVER MIND ALL THAT--

WAIT. I DON'T UNDERSTAND.



I WAS GOING TO USE MY TRACKER TO FIND THEM...

BUT IT LOOKS LIKE DRAGON TOOK IT WHILE I WAS HIS "GUEST."

THEN THEY COULD BE IN GREAT DANGER.

WE MUST GET THAT TRACKER BACK.

BUT, while Goliath debated STRATEGY, all I could think of was whether Broadway and Brooklyn WERE perched atop that museum...

If so, they could've been in any of HUNDREDS of warehouses, ANYWHERE in the city...

SOMETHING'S MOVING... IN THE SHADOWS...!

BAFF

YOU, THERE!---

-- FREEZE!

I was getting WORRIED.

Even if the boys found their way home, FLIGHT CONDITIONS for GARGOYLES weren't too GOOD tonight.

There WASN'T much WIND. Hard to catch an AIR CURRENT.

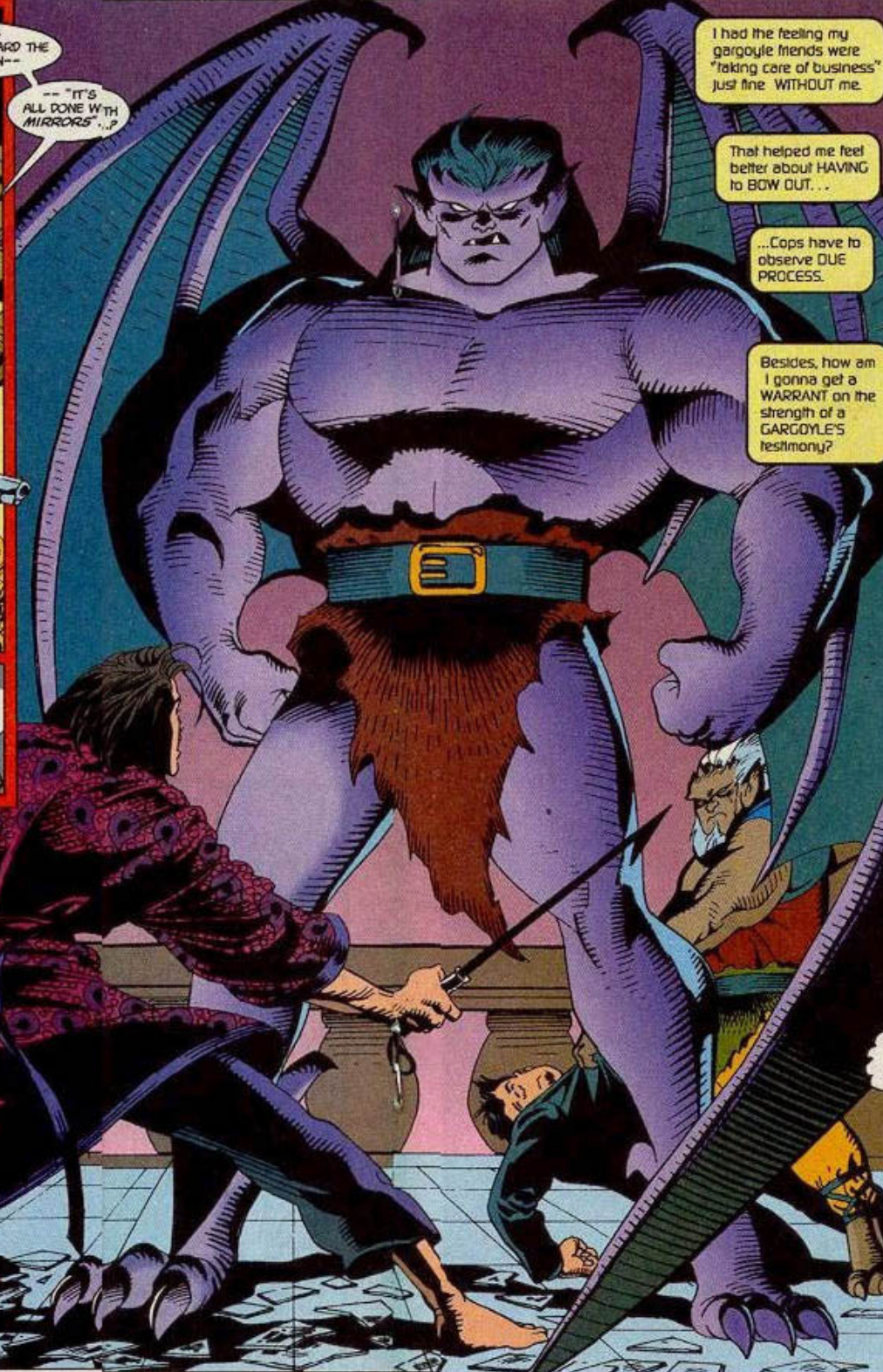
But there was NO TIME to AGONIZE.

It took Goliath LESS than a MINUTE to have an INSPIRATION, and we were OFF...

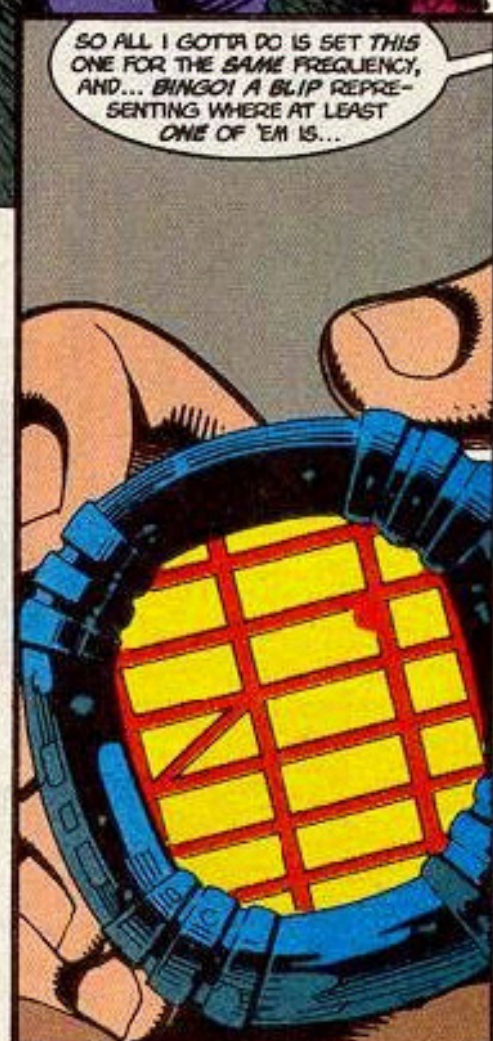
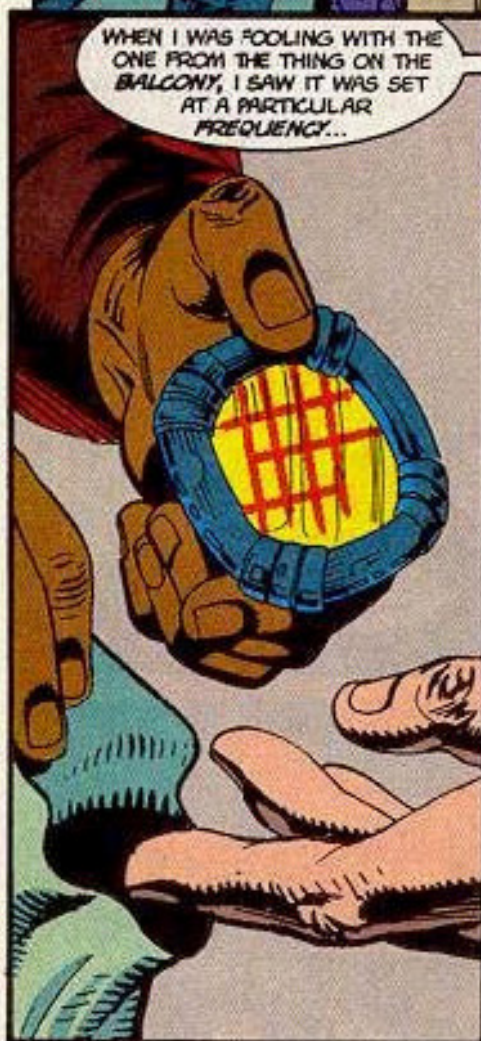


Evidently, Tony Dragon and his goon WERE distracted enough for the plan to WORK.









"... AND IT LOOKS LIKE IT'S SOMEWHERE ON THE EAST SIDE..."

HELLOP CAN'T ANY OF YOU GUYS HEAR ME?

AW, PLEASE LET THIS WRIST-THING HAVE SOME KINDA COMMUNICATOR THAT LEX FORGOT TO MENTION...

... 'CAUSE I'M TOTALLY LOST... AND EVEN IF I KNEW WHICH WAY TO GO...

... IT'S TAKING ME FOREVER TO GET ANYWHERE TO-NIGHT, BECAUSE OF--

?! WAIT. THAT HELICOPTER...!

THE BACKWASH FROM THE ROTOR--

-- IT OUGHTA CREATE AN AIR CURRENT I CAN GLIDE ON...!

Queens-Midtown Tunnel

HEY, BROOKLYN!-- NO!

GET OFF THAT BUS...!

HUNH?!

IF YOU GO INTO THAT TUNNEL, YOU'LL END UP IN QUEENSI

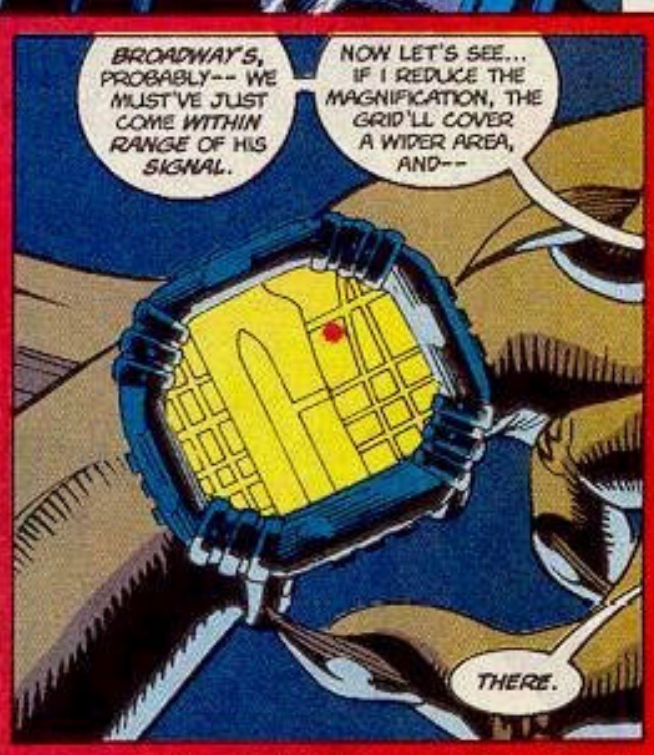
LEX AND GOLIATH AND HUDSON...?!

YOU CAME LOOKING FOR ME?

MR. DRAGON WAS RIGHT--

-- THERE IS T'REE OF 'EM-- UP ON 'AT ROOF.

THEN DON'TCHA WANNA GET ON THE PHONE WIT 'IM, VINNIE-- TO AKS 'IM WHAT HE WANTS US TO DO?



OUTSIDE
SACRI-
LEGE...

THERE
IT IS!

RIGHT
WHERE THE
TRACKER-BLIP
SAID IT'D
BE...

DROP
IT, FREAK-
FACE!

LISTEN,
GUYS, I DON'T
WANNA BE
RUDE...

... BUT
WHO
ARE YOU?

KREEUMMP

SHREEOWW

JUDGING FROM THE FANCY
WEAPONS, THOUGH, MY GUESS IS
YOU'RE SOME OF DRAGON'S
MUSCLE.

AND,
MUCH AS I
HATE TO HURT
PEOPLE--

-- IN YOUR
CASE, I CAN LIVE
WITH IT.

AUGH

WUUD

WELL, WHADDYA KNOW?
LUCKY FOR ELISA THAT
THE EVIDENCE WAS TOO
BIG TO WASH DOWN THE
RUNOFF PIPE...

NO
TRESPASSING

CONDEMNED

Meanwhile, BROADWAY was getting too big to be washed down the ALASKA pipeline.



"ASSUMING, OF COURSE, THAT BROADWAY DOES NOT NOW WEIGH TOO MUCH TO FLY."



"... THIS TIME, I
WANT THEM DEAD.

"EVERY LAST ONE OF
THEM, YOU HEAR ME?"

But LASER-GUNS or NO,
Dracon's boys were still
OUT OF THEIR LEAGUE
with GARGOYLES.

It was OVER
very QUICKLY.



HE HAS BEEN KNOCKED
UNCONSCIOUS-- JUST LIKE
THE OTHERS.

GOOD, THEN
THEY CAN'T SLOW US
DOWN ANY MORE--

-- AND WE
CAN HURRY BACK
HOME WITH THAT BULLET.



AYE, BUT DO WE KNOW—

HOW TO
DO THAT? SURE.
NO PROBLEM—
RIGHT, LEX?



UHH—
THERE WAS
A COMPASS
ON THE
TRACKER...

... BUT,
NOT ANY MORE.



IT GOT
BROKEN IN
THE FIGHT.
RUINED.

DOESN'T
MATTER,
THOUGH—

-- GOLIATH
KNOWS THE WAY.



THE BULLET,
BROADWAY...?

RIGHT
HERE UNDER
MY BELT.



GOOD. LET US GO. ELISA SHOULD HAVE
THE REAL MURDER WEAPON BY NOW...

... BUT SHE IS
RUNNING OUT OF
TIME.



SORRY IF I'M NOT
WHAT LT. MAZA WANTS
FOR A PARTNER,
CAPTAIN—

YOU'RE THE
ONLY GUY ON THE
DUTY-ROSTER WHO
DOESN'T HAVE "BLUE FLU"...
JUST GO FIND MAZA.



IT LOOKS LIKE
WE'LL HAVE TO
LET THE PERP
WALK.

WRONG,
CAPTAIN.



MY FRIENDS
IN THE LABS WERE
HAPPY TO PUT IN THE
OVERTIME.

SEVERAL HOURS LATER...

-- TEN MILES OUT FROM THE ISLAND. RIGHT-- GOT IT.

Y'KNOW, MY BUDDIES IN SICK BAY SAY SHE WAS A TEST SUBJECT WHO FLAT-LINED...

YOU WANNA GET AHEAD IN GEN-U-TECH, MARX...?

YEAH, JUST DO AS YOU'RE TOLD AN' QUIT BEIN' SO TALKATIVE.

Y'THINK HE'LL FINK TO THE BOSS?

SO WHAT IF HE DOES? HE THINKS HE'S DUMPIN' AN ORDINARY BODY...

"... SO IF SHE DOESN'T 'ARISE' BEFORE HE DUMPS 'ER...

"... THEN SHE'LL BE DESTROYED-- AND DR. P WILL NEVER FIND OUT IT WAS OUR FAULT.

"BUT IF SHE COMES BACK TO LIFE BEFORE DAWN...

"... THEN, MAYBE IT GETS A LITTLE TRICKIER FOR US...

"... BUT, THEN, MARX WON'T LIVE LONG ENOUGH TO SQUEAL TO ANYBODY!"

IF SHE ONLY COMES OUT AT NIGHT, SHE'S A GARGOYLE'S DREAM DATE, RIGHT? BE HERE FOR "BLOOD FROM A STONE" -- NEXT ISSUE!

WRITTEN IN STONE

c/o Marvel Entertainment Group 387 Park Avenue South
New York, NY 10016

Please include your name, age, and address, though we will gladly withhold that information upon request.

HILDA MESNIK
Editor

LISA ZAMPILLA
Assistant Editor

Dear GARGOYLES Fans,

We were so overwhelmed with fan mail this month we just had to break with tradition and double up on the usual single letters page! Wow! We only wish we had room to print all of your positively glowing letters! Speaking for all creators involved with this extraordinary comic book — writers, artists, Disney folks, Marvel folks — THANK YOU! Since you liked our first issues so much, stick around! Goliath, Elisa, Bronx and the whole gaggle of Gargoyles only get better!!

Hilda

Dear Goliath, Hudson, Lexington, Brooklyn, Broadway and the adorable Bronx,

Welcome to the 20th century and into the life of this 46-year-old lover of animation. I was first introduced to you via two episodes at the 1994 San Diego Comic Con. Now, having an affinity with almost everything Scottish (I still cannot stomach haggis!), it was love at first flight.

Next, thanks to the wizards of animation at Disney, you burst forth upon my TV screen in eight wonderful episodes. Although I love you all, Goliath is definitely my favorite. And now, GARGOYLES #1 comic! To paraphrase: "Thank you very much! Thank you very much! This is one of the nicest things that anyone's ever done for me..." The embossed cover was beautiful; the interior artwork/storyline are well done. Thank you for including references to the animated episodes as needed, and yes, I am even grateful that Demona survived.

Is it possible you might consider exploring the GARGOYLES' past before their betrayal, including who fashioned them? Thank you for listening to my ravings. You have my permission to print my address as I would love to hear from other fans of animation and readers!

Jatona P. Walker
1210 N. Berendo St. #18
Los Angeles, CA 90029

The idea of a GARGOYLES "year one" story arc is a fascinating one, Jatona. There are many questions left unanswered by the TV series, and this comic may be the place to reveal all the mysterious origins of the GARGOYLES. How do you other readers feel about it?

Dear Written in Stone,

Spectacular job! I mean that! All the elements that make the animated epic of GARGOYLES so wonderful are found right in your first issue! Sharp artwork, an intensely written episode, and most importantly, the distinct traits and feelings of each character. I thank you for putting such diligence in your work!

One suggestion: how about a fan art page called "Goliath's Gallery"? I would like to invite anyone to write to me who identifies with Brooklyn, as he is my favorite character. Thanks!

Mike "Pendragon" McPherson
444 Hansen Ave #213
Fremont, CA 94536-5749

Thank you! All creators involved with this action-packed comic have had a ball bringing the GARGOYLES to life in their very own book! A fan art gallery could be a fun addition to the comic, Mike — or should we call you Pendragon?

Dear Marvel,

My name is Kyle Cummings and I'm the president of the GARGOYLES Fan Club on the Prodigy computer service. Anyone can join the club. We're under the TV BB's CARTOONS and all of our topics are under "GC". Call at P* #NKVW38C. All of us have been anxiously waiting for the release of the comic and now that it's here, all we can do is praise you!

This is probably the best TV adaptation of Marvel's since the early Star Comics like THUNDERCATS and DROIDS. Somehow

your creative team of geniuses has been able to capture all the magic of the show... including the superior artwork! Hats off to Amanda Conner! As a future comic artist, I hope to someday get a pencilling job like Amanda has. Her artwork is beautiful (I might even have to buy an issue of BARBIE to see her other work!). The inking, the artwork, the story, the lettering, the coloring... all of it captures the animated beauty of our favorite show. Congratulations to all! From the front cover, I knew this was going to be worth subscribing to and I know you'll make it worth my money!

Thanks for a wonderful comic. Now we can enjoy great new episodes and great new comics!

Kyle Cummings
Cypress, TX

Many people have written in asking about a GARGOYLES Fan Club, Kyle, so you've answered a lot of prayers! Thanks for your positive critique and we look forward to hearing more about your computer club and its members!

Dear Gargoyles Staff,

Talk about your bad news, good news month. The bad news was the untimely death of BLACKWOLF, the good news is GARGOYLES has arrived! Thank you for the cast of characters explanation at the end. But, I cry fowl when you ask me to refer to recent television episodes, although I find it refreshing that the comic's story runs in the same time line as the show.

How much did I enjoy the entire package? Well, as the budget belt tightens, some comics have to go, others stay. Say goodbye, Spawn! Personal stats per your request (and a little more than you asked): age: 45; occupation: systems analyst; family size: one better half, 3 children, 5 chinchillas, one rabbit and one faithful dog.

Jeff Bowman
Jefferson, LA

Y'know, even though comics often have the rep of being just for kids, GARGOYLES has a lot of mature readers! Many adult readers picked up the first issue and really enjoyed it! And even though the majority of the mail was congratulatory, we don't want you to get the idea that we only print the "good stuff"! To wit ...

Conner, Pasko, Saichann and Crew,

"Phenomenal," I said, after the first televised episode of Disney's GARGOYLES and from thereafter I was addicted. At the age of 24, I thought my cartoon watching days were limited to an occasional Batman: The Animated Series... I thought wrong. But this letter is not about an outstanding cartoon, it's about the slaughtering of a great cartoon gone comic book. "What have they done?" I exclaimed after opening the pages of GARGOYLES, "they slaughtered it!" I exclaimed louder. Marvel finally had its hands on a concept that rivaled, if not surpassed The Batman Adventures and you massacred the Gargoyles by making them something they are not with a shoddy attempt at realism with "busy" layouts and crosshatched, sketchy artwork. Why? Had you stuck with the original, simplistic style which makes the cartoon so enjoyable, maybe your rendition of Elisa Maza would look more like the ravishing character she is rather than a sleazy Revanche/Psylocke look alike. Rather than being something different, Marvel's rendition of GARGOYLES is just another comic book with a flashy cover (which did catch my attention, although Goliath looks more like the Beast). But wait! Don't give up... just recall how something different, something for all ages made Batman Adventures successful and please, don't change a good



thing: keep my centuries-old, nocturnal crime-fighting friends just the way Disney intended 'em to be. Do the right thing. I'm sure you're not going to alienate Bronx!

Anthony Zarka
San Antonio, TX

Well, Anthony, the old adage of "you can't please all of the people all of the time" rings true in your case! Even though your disapproval was in the extreme minority (you were the only one!), we do appreciate your comments. Characters designed for animation often have simpler features than comics by virtue of the medium. But given the chance for more detail (which adds to the drama and mood) in the comic, we went for it! You can be sure if Disney wasn't 100% behind us, we wouldn't do it! Thanks for taking the time to write. We hope you'll give GARGOYLES another chance and ultimately get hooked on the very impressive artwork!

Dear Hildy and Lisa,

I'm 30 years old, not a huge comics fan, but I am a self-proclaimed artist. I didn't go to school to master my gift. I watched cartoons! Growing older and lack of time has prevented me from being able to take time out to watch cartoons, until one Friday I took remote in hand, sat back, grazed the afternoon talk shows, then saw Lexington, then Goliath and realized that finally someone brought to life one of my favorite things: GARGOYLES! I'm fascinated with old buildings and architecture because of their use of protective gargoyles.

You know the saying "If you want something done right, etc...?" Well, you and your clan have done this right! Is there a fan club yet?

Lisa Offenbacher
Los Angeles, CA

People of all ages and backgrounds seem to be inspired by the GARGOYLES comic for different reasons! As far as finding out about a GARGOYLES fan club, see above letters from Jatona, Mike and Kyle! And now, since a letters page without Joey Marchese is like a day without sunshine (!), we present the following ...

Dear Hildy and Lisa,

GARGOYLES is in an interesting position, falling somewhere between "kid book" and "adult drama". TV critics have scratched their heads trying to describe Disney's latest cartoon and it is sufficient to say that I think the comic store that keeps GARGOYLES right next to Betty and Ninja Turtles are dead mistaken. GARGOYLES #1 was really a great issue.

I have the initial mini-series on tape, but am rarely around to catch the weekly installments of GARGOYLES, so I look to this new series as a great way for me to be in on the action! I'm glad that Marvel has decided not to create mere adaptations of the cartoons. An episode guide would be nice though, since you referred to one of the shows already in the first issue.

Marty Pasko is a consummate writer, many of his Batman stories ranking as the best the Dark Knight has starred in. I was glad to see his name attached to the title and his story did not disappoint me. The piece definitely had lasting impact for I could now describe each Gargoyle. The dialogue was strong and Marty effectively told the origin and background without centering on it. I would like to see a special adapting the mini-series, but we learned enough in #1 to keep interest high.

One thing I would praise Marty on is keeping the line between a superhero book and a kiddie book well defined. Nothing in GARGOYLES is inappropriate, yet this book doesn't look aimed at the younger set. Unlike Marvel's other Disney books, which are aimed at kids yet enjoyable to older readers, GARGOYLES looks aimed equally towards both crowds with a slight slant toward intense drama, which is just the way I like it.

Amanda Conner indeed created magic with her drawings, as did Inker Alberto Salchann. I could see the emotion in Goliath, the realism in Elisa, as well as the fun in Broadway and Brooklyn. Best of all, Amanda seems equally adept at illustrating the distinctive aspects to the characters.

What you have on your hands is a solidly crafted adventure comic which I hope to be seeing for a long time. This comic has the best of two worlds and a dynamite creative team backing it up. Look no further than the great cover by Madueira and Palmiotti to sum up the energy and excitement I caught in GARGOYLES #1!

Joey Marchese
Clark, NJ

Hey, Joey! How are you? Thanks for your kind compliments! We're glad you picked up GARGOYLES even though it was on the wrong shelf at your retailer! We

couldn't agree more about veteran writer Marty Pasko, super star artist Amanda Conner, and inker-extraordinaire Alberto Salchann — what a team! See you next month, Joey! (Hey Joey, when do you sleep?!!)

Dear Ms. Meanik,

The first time my son and I watched GARGOYLES on TV, we went crazy over it. So I started drawing pictures for my three year old son. He loved them so much that he wanted more pictures. When the GARGOYLES comic came out, I bought one for him and read it to him. He loved it and so do I!

I feel that the GARGOYLES will be very popular and would love for you to see the drawings that I have done for my son.

Margaret Stephens
Aiken, SC

Thanks for sending the excellent illustrations and the encouraging words, Margaret! Since you and your son both love GARGOYLES, why not share the experience every month by subscribing? You'll never miss a single issue of GARGOYLES because it will be delivered right to your doorstep! Simply fill out the form in this very issue, mail it in, and the adventure begins!

Dear Editor and Staff,

When I first heard about GARGOYLES through Toon Magazine, they said (at the time because the concept was new) that it would be about a heroic creature and cute kids. My initial response: "If we wanted another series about some super hero character and cute kids, why not do another season of Darkwing Duck?" I never thought that Disney would break from its traditional role of doing funny characters in comedic situations.

Thank heavens, I was proven wrong! After watching the first of the new mini-series called "Awakenings", I became impressed and taped every episode. I loved every story because of its dramatic content laced with small ounces of humor. Disney showed its viewing audience that they could do a very serious animated program with interesting characters and topics... which brings me to Marvel's adaptation of the series.

To be honest and blunt, I have found most television or movie adaptations sadly lacking in faithfulness to the source material. Thankfully, the staff of your comic book series, in its wisdom, has kept faithful to the characterizations and storylines while making acknowledgments to the program. I loved your first issue dearly.

I hope that your comic book series will be a success for now and always. I will continue to relish every issue as long as it remains faithful to the series in its storytelling and to the characters involved!

E.A. Allen
Salisbury, NC

Disney can do soft and cuddly, and serious drama and adventure! Don't forget Disney's FANTASIA, PINOCCHIO and even BAMB! There are always dramatic and sometimes horrific moments in each film! And now there's GARGOYLES where the drama and adventure take center stage, while the humor creeps in around the edges! Thanks for writing, E.A.!

Dear Marvel Comics,

I just picked up GARGOYLES #1 and it was great! I really enjoyed your first issue. This comic book, in my eyes, is the single best comic book ever created. I have the utmost faith that this comic book will become one of the greatest comic books ever created and it is in the hands of the great Marvel crew!

As for why I like the GARGOYLES, it's a combination of all these great elements: artwork, storyline, the time travelling and the mythical twist. Most of all though, it's the Gargoyles themselves; watching their characters develop and grow is great. Keep 'em coming!

Noel J. Rodriguez
Long Beach, CA

We're inclined to believe you are sincere, Noel... especially since you sent us three letters about GARGOYLES #1! We hope you'll stay a satisfied reader as the adventures continue in the pages of GARGOYLES!

NEXT MONTH:

Brooklyn, Broadway and Lexington fall head-over-talons for the same girl! It's up to Elisa to convince the trio that LaVonne is not who she seems to be!